

Purí Retreat



Songs and Verses



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GAURANGA KARUNA KORO

“Be Merciful Lord Gauranga”

By Srila Narottam Das Thakur

*gaurāṅga karuṇā koro, dīna hīna jane
mo-samo patita prabhu, nāhi tri-bhuvane*

O my dear Lord Gauranga! Please show your mercy to this lowly and destitute soul. O Lord! There is no one more fallen than myself in all the three worlds. (1)

*dante tṛṇa dhoṛi’ gaura, ḍāki he tomār
kṛpā kori’ eso āmār, hṛdoya mandire*

Holding grass between my teeth, O Lord Gaura, I am calling out to you now! Please be compassionate upon me and come to reside within the temple of my heart. (2)

*jadi doyā nā koribe, patita dekhiyā
patita pāvana nāma, kisera lāgiyā*

If You do not give your mercy, seeing how fallen I am, then how can you be known as Patita Pavan—the merciful savior of the fallen? (3)

*poḍeci bhava tuphāne, nāhika nistār
śrī caraṇa taraṇī dāne, dāse koro pār*

I am plunged amidst the violent hurricane-stricken waves in the ocean of this material world, from which there is no escape. Kindly give me the gift of your divine lotus feet, which are compared to a boat in which your servant may cross over the ocean of birth and death. (4)

*śrī kṛṣṇa caitanya prabhu, dāser anudās
prārthanā koraye sadā, narottam dās*

Narottama Das, the servant of the servant of Sri Krishna Chaitanya Prabhu, ceaselessly makes this prayer. (5)

PRANAMS TO JAGANNATH, BALADEV, SUBHADRA

*nīlācala-nivāsāya nityāya paramātmāne
balabhadra-subhadrābhyām jagannāthāya te namaḥ*

“I offer my respectful obeisances to Lord Jagannath, along with Lord Baladev and Srimati Subhadra. The eternal Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Jagannath, resides in Nilachal, Purushottam Kshetra, and is the *paramātmā*, the Supersoul of all living entities.”



PRAYERS TO LORD JAGANNATH

Before speaking on Lord Jagannath, Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja would recite the following prayers from Skanda Purāṇa



Jagannātha-praṇāma

deva-deva jagannātha prapannārti-vināśana trāhi mām puṇḍarikākṣa patitaṁ bhava-sāgare

“O God of gods! O Jagannath, O Lord of the universe! Please destroy the great distress that has overcome me! O lotus-eyed Lord! Please deliver this fallen soul from the ocean of material existence.”

namas te jagad-ādhāra jagad-ātman namo 'stu te kaivalya-triguṇātīta guṇāñjana namo 'stu te

“I offer my respectful obeisances unto You, the support and the very soul of the universe. You are transcendental to the influence of the three modes of material nature and above the impersonal Brahman, and yet you are decorated with wonderful transcendental qualities. I offer my repeated obeisances unto you.”

karuṇāmṛta-pāthodhe sudhāmne namo namaḥ dīnoddhāraika-guhyāya kṛpā-pāthodhaye namaḥ

“To you who are an ocean of nectarean compassion and whose abode is most attractive, I offer my obeisances again and again! In a most mysterious way, you are the sole uplifter and deliverer of the fallen souls. O ocean of mercy, I offer my respectful obeisances unto you.”

paritrāhi jagannātha dīna-bandho namo 'stu te nistīrṇo 'haṁ bhavāmbodhiṁ prāpya tvām taraṇīm sukhām

“O Lord Jagannath, please rescue me! O friend of the fallen, I offer my obeisances unto you! Now that I have attained you as my safe boat to cross the ocean of material existence, I have been delivered.”

Baladeva-praṇāma

namas te hala-dhṛg rāma namas te muṣalāyudha namas te revatī-kānta namas te bhakta-vatsala

“Obeisances to you, O Balarāma, O holder of the plow! Obeisances to you, O wielder of the mace! Obeisances to you, O beloved of Revati! Obeisances to you, who are very kind to your devotees!”

namas te balinān śreṣṭha namas te dharaṇī-dhara pralambāre namas te 'stu trāhi mām kṛṣṇa-pūrvaja

“I offer my respectful obeisances unto Lord Balaram, the best of the strong and the support of the earth. Obeisances unto You, O enemy of Pralamba! Please deliver me, O elder brother of Krishna!”

Subhadrā-praṇāma

devi tvaṁ viṣṇu-māyāpi mohayanti carācaram hṛt-padmasana-saṁsthāsi viṣṇu-bhāvānusārini

“O Subhadra Devi, You are Lord Vishnu’s māyā potency, and as such you cause the bewilderment of all moving and non-moving living entities in the universe. You reside in the lotus of the heart and perform all activities exactly according to Lord Vishnu’s desires.”

jaya devi bhakti-dātri prasīda paramesvāri jaya devi subhadre tvaṁ sarveṣāṁ bhadrā-dāyini

“All glories to you, the bestower of bhakti! You are famous as Parameshwari, the supreme controller. Please be satisfied with me. All glories to you, Subhadra Devi! You bestow transcendental auspiciousness to one and all.”

(Continued on page 3)

Sudarśana-praṇāma

*sudarśana mahā-jvāla koṭi-sūrya-sama-prabha
ajñānāndhasya me nityam viṣṇor mārgaṁ
pradarśaya*

O Sudarshan! Your burning effulgence is as brilliant as millions of suns! Please dispel our darkness of ignorance and thus reveal the path to the eternal world of Vaikuntha.

*namas te nitya vilasad-vaiṣṇavāstra-niketana
avārya-vīryam yad rūpaṁ viṣṇos tat praṇamāmy
aham*

I offer my obeisances unto the brightly shining Sudarshan *cakra*, which never fails to offer all protection to the *vaiṣṇavas*. I humbly bow down before Lord Vishnu's weapon of irresistible strength.



SEPARATION IN PURI

Vasudev Ghosh

*simha-dvāra tyaji gorā samudra āḍe dhāya
kothā kṛṣṇa kothā kṛṣṇa sabhāre sudhāya*

Leaving the Simha-dwara gate, Lord Gaura runs toward the ocean. He calls, “Where is Krishna? Where is Krishna?”

*caudike bhakata-gaṇa hari-guṇa gāya
mājhe kanayā giri dhūlāya loṭaya*

Surrounding him on four sides, the devotees sing of Lord Hari's glories. Lord Gaura has become like a golden mountain rolling about in the dust.

*āchāḍiyā paḍe aṅga bhūme gaḍi yāya
dīghala śarīre gorā paḍi mūrachāya*

Lord Gaura falls to the ground. His tall body is now unconscious.

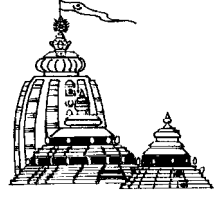
*uttāna śayana mukhe phena bahi yāya
vāsudeva ghoṣera hiyā bidariyā yāya*

He stands. Again he falls. Foam comes from his mouth. Now Vasudeva Ghosh's heart is ripped into shreds. (From *Sri Krishna Kathamrita Bindu* issue 205)



SRI JAGANNATHASTAKAM

*kadācit kālindī-taṭa-vipina-saṅgītaka-ravo
mudābhīrī-nārī-vadana-kamalāsvāda-madhupaḥ
ramā-śambhu-brahmāmara-pati-gaṇeśārcita-pado
jagannāthaḥ svāmī nayana-patha-gāmī bhavatu me*



Lord Jagannath sometimes makes the melodious sounds of playing music and singing throughout the groves on the banks of the Kalindi River. He is like a bumblebee experiencing great delight while tasting the nectar of the lotus-like faces of the cowherd damsels. His lotus feet are worshipped by great personalities such as Lakshmi, Shiva, Brahma, Indra and Ganesh. May that Lord of the Universe kindly become visible unto me. (1)

*bhuje savye veṇuṁ śīrasi śikhi-picchaṁ kaṭi-taṭe
dukūlaṁ netrānte sahacari-kaṭākṣaṁ vidadhate
sadā śrīmad-vṛndāvana-vasati-līlā-paricayo
jagannāthaḥ svāmī nayana-patha-gāmī bhavatu me*

In his left hand he holds a flute, upon his head is a peacock feather, and around his hips is a fine silken cloth. From the corners of his eyes, he casts sidelong glances upon his loving companions. He is most fond of the pastimes he conducts while living in Sri Vrindavan. May that Lord of the Universe kindly become visible unto me. (2)

*mahāmbhodes tīre kanaka-rucire nīla-śikhare
vasan prāsādāntaḥ sahaja-balabhadrena balinā
subhadrā-madhya-sthaḥ sakala-sura-sevāvasara-do
jagannāthaḥ svāmī nayana-patha-gāmī bhavatu me*

On the shore of the great ocean is a large palace that glows with the effulgence of solid gold, and is topped by a towering temple spire that appears to be a blue sapphire mountain. Residing therein along with his mighty brother Balabhadra, and in between them his sister Subhadra, Lord Jagannath bestows opportunities for all godly souls to render various devotional services. May that Lord of the Universe kindly become visible unto me. (3)

*kṛpā-pārāvāraḥ sajala-jalada-śreṇi-ruciro
ramā-vāṇī-rāmaḥ sphurad-amala-paṅkeruha-mukhaḥ
surendrair ārādhyah śruti-gaṇa-śikhā-gīta-carito
jagannāthaḥ svāmī nayana-patha-gāmī bhavatu me*

He is a fathomless ocean of causeless mercy, and his beautiful complexion is like a cluster of blackish rainclouds. He derives great pleasure by hearing the words of affectionate chastisement from his beloved goddess Lakshmi. His face is like a fully-

blown spotless lotus flower. He is worshipped by the best of demigods and sages, and his character and activities are glorified in song by the topmost personified Upaniṣads. May that Lord of the Universe kindly become visible unto me. (4)

*rathārūḍho gacchan pathi milita-bhūdeva-paṭalaiḥ
stuti-prādurbhāvaṁ prati-padam upākaraṇya sadayaḥ
dayā-sindhur bandhuḥ sakala-jagatām sindhu-sutayā
jagannāthaḥ svāmī nayana-patha-gāmī bhavatu me*

As the Lord mounts his Ratha Yatra cart and parades along the road, there is a constant accompaniment of loud prayers and songs chanted by large assemblies of saintly Brahmins. Hearing their hymns, Lord Jagannath is favorably disposed toward them. He is an ocean of mercy, and is the true friend of all the worlds. May that Lord of the Universe, along with his consort Lakshmi, who was born from the ocean of nectar, kindly become visible unto me. (5)

*paraṁ-brahmāpīḍaḥ kuvalaya-dalotphulla-nayano
nivāsī nīlādrau nihita-caraṇo 'nanta-śīrasi
rasānandī rādhā-sarasa-vapur ālīngana-sukho
jagannāthaḥ svāmī nayana-patha-gāmī bhavatu me*

Lord Jagannath, whose eyes resemble full-blown lotus petals, is the last limit of the absolute. He is a resident of Nilachal Hill and his lotus feet are placed on the heads of Anantadeva. Overwhelmed by the mellows of love, he joyfully embraces Srimati Radharani's body to his chest. May that Jagannath Swami be visible before me! (6)

*na vai yāce rājyam na ca kanaka-māṇikyā-vibhavaṁ
na yāce 'haṁ ramyām sakala-jana-kāmyām vara-vadhūm
sadā kāle kāle pramatha-patinā gīta-carito
jagannāthaḥ svāmī nayana-patha-gāmī bhavatu me*

I do not pray for a kingdom, nor for gold, rubies, and wealth. I do not ask for an excellent and beautiful wife, which is a possession desired by all ordinary men. I simply pray for that Lord of the Universe, whose glories are sung by Lord Shiva from age to age, to kindly become visible unto me. (7)

*hara tvaṁ saṁsāraṁ drutataram asāraṁ sura-pate
hara tvaṁ pāpānām vitatim aparām yādava-pate
aho dine 'nāthe nihita-caraṇo niścitam idaṁ
jagannāthaḥ svāmī nayana-patha-gāmī bhavatu me*

O Lord of the demigods! Please quickly take away this useless material existence that I am undergoing. O Lord of the Yadus! Please destroy my boundless sinful reactions. Aho! It is certain that Lord Jagannath bestows his lotus feet upon those who feel themselves humbled and helpless. May that Lord of the Universe kindly become visible unto me. (8)

*jagannāthāṣṭakam puṇyaṁ yaḥ paṭhet prayataḥ śuci
sarva-pāpa-viśuddhātmā viṣṇu-lokaṁ sa gacchati*

One who carefully recites this sacred Jagannāthāṣṭakam, becomes cleansed of all sins, and duly proceeds to Lord Vishnu's abode (or: upon becoming sinless and pure-hearted, will attain entrance into Vishnu's abode). (9)



GOPINATH

Srīla Thakur Bhaktivinode

*gopīnāth, mama nivedana śuno
viṣayī durjana, sadā kāma-rata,
kichu nāhi mora guṇa*

O Gopinath, Lord of the cowherd girls, please hear my prayer. I am a wicked materialist, always addicted to worldly desires, and no good qualities do I possess. (1)

*gopīnāth, āmāra bharasā tumi
tomāra carañe, loinu śaraṇa,
tomāra kiṅkora āmi*

O Gopinath, you are my only hope, and so I have taken shelter at your lotus feet. I am your eternal servant. (2)

*gopīnāth, kemone śodhibe more
nā jāni bhakatī, karme jaḍa-mati,
porechi soṁsāra-ghore*

O Gopinath, how will you purify me? I do not know what devotion is, and my materialistic mind is absorbed in fruitive work. I have fallen into this dark and perilous worldly existence. (3)

*gopīnāth, sakali tomāra māyā
nāhi mama bala, jñāna sunirmala,
swādīna nahe e kāyā*

O Gopinath, everything here is your illusory energy. I have no strength or transcendental knowledge, and this body of mine is not independent, being controlled by material nature. (4)

*gopīnāth, niyata caraṇe sthāna
māge e pāmara, kāndiyā kāndiyā,
korohe karuṇā dāna*

O Gopinath, weeping and weeping, this sinner begs for an eternal place at your divine feet. Please give him your mercy. (5)

*gopīnāth, tumi to' sakali pāro
durjane tārīte, tomāra śakati,
ke āche pāpīra āro*

O Gopinath, since you can do anything, you have the power to deliver all sinners. Who is a greater sinner than I? (6)

*gopīnāth, tumi kṛpā-pārābāra
jīvera kāraṇe, āsiyā prapañce,
lilā koile subistāra*

O Gopinath, you are the ocean of mercy. After entering this phenomenal world, you expand your divine pastimes for the sake of the fallen souls. (7)

*gopīnāth, āmi ki doṣe doṣī
asura sakala, pāilo caraṇa,
vinoda thākilo bosī'*

O Gopinath, although all the demons you killed attained your lotus feet, this Bhaktivinoda is so sinful that he has remained in worldly existence. (8)



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